

REMARKS

Applicant, by the amendments presented above, has made a concerted effort to present claims which clearly define over the prior art of record, and thus to place this case in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention and further rejected these claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 7,237,154 (Zorian). Each of the independent claims have been amended to overcome the indefiniteness rejection and further distinguish the present invention from that which is disclosed in Zorian.

Specifically, independent claim 1 has been amended such that it now specifically claims testing the memories a first time, generating a repair solution, using the repair solution to repair **a first set of damaged** memories while **not repairing and instead flagging a second set of damaged memories, wherein each of the memories in the second set require an extent of** repair which exceeds a pre-determined limit, making an on-chip assessment to test the memories a second time, and **using the repair solution to repair damaged memories which were not previously flagged**. Independent claim 12 has been similarly amended, but is directed to an apparatus. Applicant respectfully submits that this is neither disclosed nor suggested by Zorian.

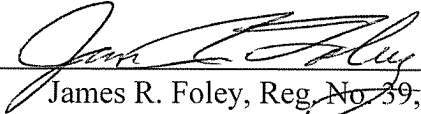
While Zorian teaches testing memories a plurality of times, Zorian neither discloses nor suggests using a repair solution to repair a first set of damaged memories while not repairing and instead flagging a second set of damaged memories, where each of the memories in the second set require an extent of repair which exceeds a pre-determined limit, making an on-chip

assessment to test the memories a second time, and using the repair solution to repair damaged memories which were not previously flagged. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 12, and those claims which depend therefrom, are allowable over Zorian.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims of the application are allowable over the rejections of the Examiner. Should the present claims not be deemed adequate to effectively define the patentable subject matter, the Examiner is respectfully urged to call the undersigned attorney of record to discuss the claims in an effort to reach an agreement toward allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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